

the Lays of Rome in Manuscript, and persuaded their author to publish them. Macaulay had doubts whether they would take a place in English literature. He had the same apprehension with regard to the Essays. I shall show George your letter; but! am very careful to keep what you write to me for my own private delectation.

"We have just parted from Henry James. He conies to us every year, and is never tired of this beautiful and classical neighborhood. In one of his early books he gives a charming description of "Warwickshire and Stratford-on-Avon;—in his "Portraits of Places/ which, with the little companion volume, * Foreign Parts/ forms what is, personally, my favorite book of travels. I thank you once more for the immense pleasure which your letter gave to me and my wife, and will give to my son."

Replying to this letter, on May 28, 1904, Roosevelt wrote: "My blunder in my last letter brought me a better reward than I deserved, because owing to it I have read your son's ⁴ Age of Widdiffe* with great pleasure. Pray congratulate him from me upon all that he is doing."

It was a standing wonder with Roosevelt's intimates that such a thing as intellectual weariness was unknown to him. Reading never tired him as it does most persons, and the reason why it did not he gave in this letter to Trevelyan, on May 28, 1904:

"I find reading a great comfort. People often say to me that they do not see how I find time for it, to which I answer them (much more truthfully than they believe) that to me it is a dissipation, which I have sometimes to

try to avoid,
instead of an irksome duty. Of course I have
been so busy
for Cfae ten years, so absorbed in political
work, that I
have given up reading any book that I
do not find

But there are a great many books
which ordi-
narily for *dry? which to me possess much
interest-
notably history and anthropology; and these
give me ease
and relaxation that I can get in no other way,
not even on
horseback!"